

AWARENESS

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Editorial	2
"UFO Origins The Alternatives Considered" by J.B. Delair	3-12
"Ufological Illusions"								
Part I Heavenly Bodies by G.E. Ambler	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12-16
"Nazi UFOs" by Data Research	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17-19
"Selected UFO Reports" by D.N. Mansell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19-21
"Public Impressions" by Graham and Mark Birdsall	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21-23
Reviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23-26
Advertisements	26-29
Announcements	29-30
Contact International Supplement	S1-S4

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EDITORIAL

Another year has passed without the UFO enigma solved, but our tireless team of investigators and researchers carry on their task undaunted. Stories continue to appear in American publications of interred aliens and their craft, but no Government body wishes to reveal any facts to the public. The Voyager I shots of Saturn and its moons were breathtaking and the announcement that the large moon Titan - often considered a UFO base by some - has a nitrogen based atmosphere could be highly significant in our search for extraterrestrial life. We must now hope that later probes will study Titan even more closely.

After a quiet year we experienced a dramatic sighting on Christmas night when a large bright multiple object was seen passing over a wide area of southern England and Wales around 21.10. The object startled so many people that our "hotline" at headquarters was inundated with calls through to midnight - proving at least that CONTACT will get early advice on major sightings! Naturally we were told that the object was a satellite or meteorite breaking up, but a number of experienced witnesses who wrote in have convincing evidence that this was something far more sophisticated. Detailed assessment of the sightings will be published in due course.

This edition contains two articles on the origin of UFOs. One debates in depth the extraterrestrial and ultraterrestrial alternatives, and the other, the bizarre possibility that UFOs are the products of Nazi technology. Clearly each article will be at loggerheads with the other, but it is editorial policy to broaden the spectrum of thinking on the subject until definite proof of one origin or another emerges.

(An interesting coincidence or portent with respect to the preceding paragraphs - Admiral Doenitz, one of the last surviving Nazi leaders died on Christmas Eve and the very next night we had a major show of UFOs or whatever of the UK!)

Contact International advisory committee has now been reformed with a majority of the new committee being part of the Contact (UK) data research group plus the National Chairman. It is hoped that this arrangement will enhance the level of communication between the advisory committee and overseas affiliates who in many instances have lost touch. The first result of the new liaison is that the Contact International newsletter hitherto published as a separate article will be embodied in "Awareness" from this edition onwards and you will find a supplement at the end of the normal copy.

Renewals are due soon and the Committee feel that the present subscription of £5. should be held for next year. Please forward your £5. promptly after March 31st. We are trying to improve membership - please see separate leaflet forwarded with this magazine.

Many good sightings to you all in 1981!

"UFO ORIGINS: THE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED"

by

J.B. Delair

It may seem presumptuous to even write on this aspect of ufology in view of the conflicting evidence within the ufo phenomenon itself with regard to the origin or origins, of ufos. Nevertheless, so long as Earthbound men take an intelligent interest in that phenomenon they will want some sort of rational answer to the question "Where Do UFOs Come From?". Can a rational answer, however, be arrived at? This article attempts to probe some of the difficulties to this problem, in the hope that even if it provides no very firm answers some of the cobwebs and misconceptions that litter this field of enquiry can be removed.

In addition to the fact that ufo activity fluctuates on a more or less regular basis - the nodes of the fluctuation graph being known as "waves" - ufos visit this planet daily in disconcertingly large numbers if the daily totals recorded in the two largest extant ufo catalogues (UFOCAT and WUFOC) are indications; and as both these data sources are the two most comprehensive compilations available, they must at least be regarded as the most informative irrespective of the reliability factor attendant upon the individual cases comprising them. Indeed, owing to the high totals embodied in these catalogues, the reliability tends to "even out" when all the reports are treated as a whole.

On present evidence, the average global frequency or ufo sightings in any given 24-hour period seems to be 7. This total is often not appreciated by the media, which, when it publicly discusses ufos, invariably interprets them as being extraterrestrial in origin, i.e., from "outer space". More surprising still a sizeable segment of the ufo fraternity appears to readily accept an extraterrestrial or "space" origin for ufos. The vast majority of ufo-group publications and almost every news-stand ufo magazine seemingly supports this type of explanation, as all informed readers will know. Similarly, the same majority of ufo buffs and almost all the aforementioned ufo publications appear to ignore, or even are unaware of, this high daily total of ufo manifestations. This is decidedly curious as analysis of the implications of such high daily totals reveals that an "outer space" origin for ufos is extremely improbable. Before proceeding further it might be convenient to review what most writers appear to mean when they use the phrase "outer space".

Loosely used the phrase applies to all areas outside, or beyond the upper limits of earths outer atmosphere, although

in stricter astronomical usage the phrase is more commonly applied to space beyond the confines of the solar system. Using the speed of light as a yardstick (i.e. 186,000 miles per second) it would take a man travelling at that speed less than four hours to pass from the Sun (the centre of the solar system) to the furthest known planet Pluto. The same man travelling at the same velocity would take approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ years to pass from the Sun to the nearest known star, alpha Centauri. It goes without saying that we do not know if habitable planets orbit alpha Centauri or if that sun or either of the next two nearest stars, Munich 15040 and Wolf 359 (6.04 and 8.14 light years distant respectively) even have planets circling them at all. (1) Thus if ufos are from "outer space" proper (i.e. they are not from somewhere in our solar system), and they can travel at the speed of light, then they do not come from any star system nearer than $4\frac{1}{2}$ light years away. On the other hand if they originate from some point within our solar system, even if that point is located on the furthest confines of the system, they are scarcely 4 hours distant from Earth if capable of light-speed travel.

The arbitrarily used phrase "outer space" can therefore imply vastly different things dependant upon how one applies that term. After all, the difference between 4 hours and $4\frac{1}{2}$ years is stupendous in terms of time as we count it.

The only alternatives to the two fundamentals just discussed involve points of origin for ufos sited (a) appreciably nearer to Earth than the limits of the solar system, say on Mars or one of the larger moons of Jupiter or Saturn, or (b) on some mobile artificial world or worlds - Charles Fort would have called them constructs (2) - parked in "outer space" virtually at any distance between the outer limits of the Solar system and the nearest stars - even supposing habitable planets orbit those stars.

Naturally the distance factor in the extraterrestrial or "outer space" interpretation rapidly assumes gargantuan proportions the further away one decides to place the ufo base. Those who would have us believe that ufos emanate from hypothetical planets orbiting Sirius (8.65 light years distant) (3) some star in the Andromeda nebula (680,000 light years distant) (4) or in Coma Berenices (10,000,000 light years distant) (5) are in essence asking us to abandon everything we think we know about travel of any kind between two points - even if that travel proceeds at 186,000 miles per second.

Yet, as we have seen an average of 7 ufo visitations occur in Earth's skies daily. If ufos emanate from astronomically distant locations like those above, then we must visualize endless streams of ufos hurtling at light-speed for $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, 8.65 years, 680,000 years or 10,000,000 years in order to ensure that an average of 7 visits occur every day. Viewed from this point of view the high daily total of ufos reveals that such distant origins for ufos are simply absurd.

Just as difficult to comprehend would be the communication problems experienced by ufos journeying from such distant bases. Radio or wireless waves travel at the same speed as does light, as both are basically electrical, whereby messages sent by radio from a ufo to its home planet would take $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, 8.65 years, 680,000 years or 10,000,000 years to reach its base, even supposing its transmitters were powerful enough to send radio signals such distances and the base receivers could pick up signals despatched from such immense distances. Assuming that instant replies could be radioed back to the ufo, one is still faced with the fact that equivalent lengths of time would elapse before the ufo received those replies depending upon how far distant the ufo base was, ufos attempting communications while in the vicinity of Earth would have to wait $8\frac{1}{2}$ years, nearly 17 years, 1,360,000 years or 20,000,000 years to accomplish a conversation compressed to just two words - one sent out and one received back. Clearly radio communications over such vast periods of time are not viable and ufos, if they have need to communicate with bases, must emanate from somewhere much nearer to Earth.

Of course, all the foregoing supposes that ufos do not use a method of travel and communication vastly faster than even the speed of light. We have all heard of hyperspace and time-warps where distances allegedly diminish and time radically contracts. But these are still extremely hypothetical concepts and may never in practice prove to have any real foundation of fact. Indeed, until we surely know that such concepts are soundly based on demonstrably real evidence, then we can do no more than regard them as interesting but perhaps fanciful possibilities.

That stars far beyond alpha Centauri might be actual bases of ufos, however, gained a measure of support via the celebrated Barney and Betty Hill abduction case (6) whereby various individuals of whom Marjorie Fish is the best known (7) have constructed star maps from data subsequently retrieved from Betty Hill while under hypnotic regression. Some of the star maps are quite convincing, and we certainly cannot absolutely rule out the hyperspace/time warp explanations for ufos traversing incredibly great distances

in unbelievably short periods of time when confronted with such maps. However, the map's validity as accurate representations of hypnotically retrieved material is open to question. Neither they nor the conclusions reached by some on the basis of the maps are conclusive. All that can be said of them at present is that they are very intriguing.

On various other occasions when human beings claim to have had conversations with informative ufo occupants, they have subsequently reported that those occupants, on being asked where they came, replied - either verbally or telepathically - "from the sky" or from "up there" (pointing to the sky). To date, almost everyone has interpreted these answers as references to "outer space". In view of the preceding arguments, we now know that such interpretations are extremely suspect. Indeed, as we will shortly see, there may be an extremely different meaning to these apparently innocent ufo occupant replies.

One famous contactee alleged that the ufo occupant with whom he conversed told him that he came from an "invisible world beyond the Sun called Clarion". This may well have been a clue of great significance.

If ufos daily visit Earth in such numbers it seems most likely that they originate from no great distance. Recognising this some ufologists have advocated that ufos are with us all the while but remain invisible most of the time because they come from another space-time continuum, and pass from their world (or dimension) into ours via special "windows". (9) Keel, who has been a leading proponent of this idea, has accordingly called the ufo occupants ultraterrestrials. (10)

An acceptance of "windows" allowing travel between Earth and some other world space-time continuum very easily explains (a) the numbers of ufos in Earth's skies daily (b) the sudden materialization and/or dematerialization of many ufos, and (c) the marked time anomalies experienced by those who have encountered ufo occupants or who have been abducted by them for short periods of time. This type of hypothesis means ufos come from an invisible dimension that exists alongside our own familiar world and that they have found a method whereby then can pass more or less at will between the two realms.

That many ufo events have elements within them supporting this ultraterrestrial theory cannot be denied, while the above mentioned statement of a ufo base

named Clarion being near or beyond our Sun but invisible to Man also fits into this notion. As the "windows" advocated by Keel and others will by their very nature be located at points in Earth's atmosphere (where a minimum of impedimenta occurs), the sudden materialization and dematerialization of ufos in our skies is well accommodated by this explanation, as, also, are those ufo occupant statements that they "come from the sky".

Vallee, (11) and others have compared ufo events with fairy/goblin lore and have been able to draw some surprising parallels of behaviour. Not least among these are the time anomalies reportedly experienced by those abducted aboard ufos bases. This in fact, is a fairly common repetitive element in CE III cases. The same kind of time difference is present in those fairy myths involving extended sojourns of humans in fairy/goblin realms. In this connection it is noteworthy that neither ufo occupants nor fairy-type figures seem to like protracted visits into our (human) environment, i.e., their visits are almost always of short duration. This aspect has puzzled several past writers on the ufo theme. The same puzzling factor would also seem to be connected with the apparently deliberate non-intervention by ufo occupants in human affairs - presumably because of their reluctance or inability to sustain time anomalies like those on record. At the beginning of this article, however, reference was made to recurrent ufo "waves". The largest of these occur every 10 or 11 years; and there are lesser "waves" occurring at shorter intervals between these larger nodes as well, apparently on a 4 year cycle. (12) The real significance of these cyclic ufo patterns has yet to be determined, although in the case of the recurrent 10 or 11 year cycle "waves" there seem to be reasonable grounds for linking them to sun-spot cycles, which generate high levels of magnetic and electrical activity throughout the solar system.

Many ufo percipients and as many ufo authors have affirmed their belief that ufo propulsion is based on, or at least involves, an electrical force of some kind. Large increases in ufo activity more or less coincidentally with massive outpourings of magnetic or electrical power by the Sun, at the times of sun-spot maxima, may form an important clue as to where ufos come from. If, as previously discussed, ufos hail from some invisible realm coeval with our own, then do these huge cyclic magnetic fluctuations of the Sun also affect that invisible realm? Possibly, at periods of sun-spot maxima, conditions for ufo travel, via "windows", to Earth are more likely than at other times, and ufos duly take advantage of it. Noteworthy at this point is the fact that several writers have demoted ufos to the category of electrical plasmas

and ball-lightning (13) and equally noteworthy is the fact that ball-lightning often exhibits a degree of intelligent purposeful behaviour. (14) The main point to grasp here, however, is that all these apparently disparate phenomena, and also (apparently) ufos, have connections with magnetic and electrical force fields. Dare we urge that future ufo research should concentrate on the mysteries of electricity and magnetism, particularly as ufo origins could well be directly linked to those energy fields?

Other ufo origins have been advanced from time to time.

Early ideas that ufos are secret military inventions or were Nazi secret weapons, have long been debunked as unfounded and can be safely ignored here.

Other ideas whereby ufos come from ancient civilizations, via time travel, or from Man's future, also by time travel, are almost too bizarre for serious consideration. We have only to refer back to the high daily totals of ufos in Earth's skies to appreciate how exceedingly unlikely are these kinds of explanations. Summing up these particular interpretations we can state: "interesting but far fetched".

Possibly the same verdict should be accorded those notions which require inner-Earth origins for ufos. (15) The evidence allegedly supporting such a hypothesis is questionable in the extreme, and at the time of writing, is totally unconfirmable - although, it should be added, so is the ultraterrestrial explanation previously reviewed. The discernible facets of the ultraterrestrial hypothesis, however, are - assuming they do indeed reflect an ultraterrestrial origin - quite numerous, as we have seen, whereas there is virtually no such supportive material for the inner-Earth theory. At best we can label it as just a fascinating idea (but as nothing more); at worst we should wholly abandon it.

Having disposed of these explanations, we may turn to those which argue that ufo events are holograms, psychic projections, or mentally induced imagery. Such notions tend to offer explanations of what ufo events might actually be but not where they originate from. Some interesting thoughts on the possibilities of ufos being holograms or mentally induced images have been penned by Bowen (16) and others, and their views should not be ignored. However, it seems to this writer that as ufos and the technology they represent

are so obviously advanced, the creation at will of holograms or (within human brains) of mentally induced ufo images would not be beyond the capabilities of that technology. After all, any advanced science, such as ufos seemingly epitomize, could be expected to use several alternative methods of approach during the study or pursuit of any one theme. That some ufo events almost certainly are holograms or mentally induced images seems highly probable. But even allowing for such possibilities, holograms and induced images represent methods, not origins. Thus, those who have argued that ufos are really psychological products and that their origins are therefore in the brain sidestep the real issue, perhaps without realizing it. Some other stimulus, or perhaps a combination of different stimuli, has to occur first, before even psychologically induced imagery can occur. If we subscribe to these hologram and psychological interpretations then a still more basic point of origin for such images has to be sought. As stated above, this writer suggests that such images, if formed by such methods are mere aspects of high technology.

Few other theoretical explanations of ufo origins exist that even merit consideration, so we may safely conclude that of all the hypotheses forwarded to date only two really viable ones - as Man currently understands his universe - are available for productive, in depth, discussion. These are: (a) the extra-terrestrial or ET theory, and (b) the ultraterrestrial or UT theory.

As previously shown the ET theory appears to have serious drawbacks related mostly to the vast astronomical distances involved, the limitations of travel speeds (even at that of light), and the acute difficulties of interstellar communication. The UT theory presently appears to offer reasonable explanations for several otherwise perplexing facets of the overall ufo phenomena, but requires a belief in a state of existence invisible to us. We have in these two major alternatives a kind of paradox, whereby the ET explanation involves a visible astrophysical background to an assumed physical point of origin, which, however, is too distant from Earth to permit reasonable visitations to occur (on a frequency of 7 every day) between that place and our planet by any methods known to Earth-science; whereas the UT theory necessitates a belief in an invisible continuum coeval and generally parallel with our own visible Universe (and perhaps the reverse side of it), which, if it exists, appears to account for otherwise inexplicable aspects of ufo behaviour and rather neatly accommodates various ambiguous statements reportedly made about ufo origins by ufo occupants. Neither alternative is wholly satisfactory, but neither can, or should be

ignored by those desirous of discovering the true origins of ufos.

Finally, the only other option remotely tenable is that already alluded to, i.e., ufos come from one or more mobile artificial worlds, and that, at the present point in time, these are parked in far orbit round the Sun, just beyond the outer confines of the solar system. (17) Such a theory would signify that ufo occupants and their ufos have no planetary base at all, but are space dwellers who move from one locality to another as circumstances dictate. A fleet of mobile artificial worlds could, in fact, be simultaneously parked on the fringes of several neighbouring planetary systems - given that such systems exist - and that one or more co-ordinating mobile worlds could be positioned conveniently midway between the planetary systems being visited. Such an explanation could go a considerable way towards easing the acute travel and communication problems discussed earlier. It would also account for skyfalls of organic material recorded from time to time, (18) although, in all fairness, so could the aforementioned UT hypothesis.

We fail, therefore, to pinpoint ufo origins, but narrow the reasonable explanations down to three - the ET, the UT and the space-dwelling (SD) alternatives. Readers may decide which they prefer.

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Editor

The frightening distances of star systems and other galaxies deter one from accepting the Extra Terrestrial origin of UFOs. We must also accept that surely not all physical laws relating to time and space can yet have been postulated. Einstein is not the be-all and end-all!

One suspects that some day man will travel beyond the speed of light. The possibility that inter-stellar distances may not be as great as astronomers categorically state, must also be very tentatively suggested. Already the limited space probes man has sent from Earth to

neighbouring planets has produced many surprises - what about those superb volcanic eruptions on the Jovian moon Io!

The author has not mentioned the possibility that UFOs came here from outer space just once and stayed on indefinitely. They may well be policing the skies in the same way as USAF B.52 bombers have done for many years. An average of seven sightings a day would not seem excessive, given that a fleet of UFOs exist; are able to become visible/invisible at will; move at speeds of 0-20,000 mph anywhere in the world; and have secret bases possibly in Siberia, Antarctica or any place which is virtually uninhabited. Only one original visitation may have actually taken place, but thousands of craft may have been part of it. The problems remain - when did this occur, and from what star system or galaxy did they come from?

A further possibility is that a massive mother-ship came, with attendant "saucers" equipped with machinery and knowledge so that new craft and spare parts could be fashioned from the mineral resources of the Earth utilising the occupants' highly advanced technology.

UFOLOGICAL ILLUSIONS

A Series by G.E. Ambler*

PART 1 HEAVENLY BODIES

(This series is intended to assist Investigators and all concerned with Data Research in identifying UFOs from natural or man-made phenomena, and will cover Heavenly Bodies, Artificial Satellites, Meteors, Shooting Stars and Aircraft. It is proposed that the author's visual assessments be accepted for observations in the UK but not necessarily be applicable in other countries where climatic and clearer atmospheric conditions might produce different impressions of the phenomena).

Heavenly Bodies for purposes of this article are considered to be fixed stars, variable stars, galaxies or planets moving at relatively slow speeds across the heavens. In the UK less than 1000 stars/planets may be apparent to the naked eye even on the clearest night and, of these, confusion with UFOs is normally experienced with no more than ten of the brighter objects.

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The order of brightness of heavenly bodies is measured on a scale of brightness known as "magnitude". Taking the blue star VEGA as 0.0 on the scale, brighter objects will be denoted by negative values and fainter objects by positive values. The measure of "magnitude" is only the relative brightness of each body as seen from the Earth, the real brightness depending on the distance of the object from Earth, and the temperature and diameter of the mass in space. Values of "magnitude" for the brightest objects in the UK sky are:-

SUN (star) - 26	RIGEL (Star) + 0.1
FULL MOON (Planet) - 12.5	CAPELLA (Star) + 0.2
VENUS (Planet) - 4.4	PROCYON (Star) + 0.4
MARS (Planet) - 2.8	ALTAIR (Star) + 0.8
JUPITER (Planet) - 2.5	ALDEBARAN (Star) + 0.8
MERCURY (Planet) - 1.9	(URANUS) (Planet) + 5.6
SIRIUS (Star) - 1.4	(NEPTUNE) (Planet) + 7.7
SATURN (Planet) - 0.4	(PLUTO) (Planet) + 13
ARCTURUS (Star) - 0.1	
VEGA (Star) - 0.0	

Figures refer to Maximum magnitude

It is estimated that untrained observers in the UK will consider objects of negative magnitude only to be possible UFOs, and of these, SATURN, - 0.4 magnitude at best, is still not a very impressive object without optical aids. This leaves only five objects higher in the list (other than the sun or moon) for consideration:- SIRIUS (Star), MERCURY (Planet), VENUS (Planet), MARS (Planet) and JUPITER (Planet). To these can be added two further multiple systems which can be identified by the naked eye - the ORION NEBULA and the PLEIADES star cluster. Let us examine each of these objects or systems in detail:-

SIRIUS: The star is in the constellation of Canis Major, but is more readily identified as the brightest object rising behind Orion, the most distinct constellation in the Northern Hemisphere. Until the end of December each year, SIRIUS is not seen before about 9.00 p.m., each night and then low in the East and gradually rising higher in the sky. During January to March it appears much earlier and will be more conspicuous. In the summer months it is not visible at all.

The star appears very white to the unaided eye and "twinkles" strongly particularly when low in the sky. At 9 light-years from Earth SIRIUS is "close".

The knowledge that SIRIUS is a binary system of two stars, has been known by a remote African tribe - the Dogons -

for hundreds of years without the benefits of astronomical aids, and the source of their knowledge remains a mystery. (Another major subject, of course!)

MERCURY: A small planet and is the closest body to the sun. For this reason it is very difficult to see at almost any time, and only at Sunset or dawn for less than an hour in the direction of the sun, very low down on the horizon. The limitations in viewing would suggest that MERCURY is not often mistaken for UFOs.

VENUS: The brightest object in the sky excluding the sun and moon, and naturally the most often mistaken of UFOs. Its brightness is due to the heavy layers of gaseous clouds completely covering the planet and serving to reflect the sun's rays more strongly than a cloudless planet. Planets do not normally "twinkle" as they only reflect light, but many light distortions have been observed with VENUS and its colour, usually intense white on a still night, may become yellowish in a disturbed atmosphere. Investigation of an object seen in the western sky at sunset after a stormy day in December 1979 indicated a yellow light moving freely about the sky just where VENUS should have been seen at the time. All witnesses were convinced however, that the object was closer to the Earth and even below cloud level!

VENUS is closer to the sun than Earth and is usually seen in the early evening or morning in the direction of the sun rising or setting. During the winter of 1979-80 it was visible for as long as six hours each night from 5 to 11.00 p.m. and quite high in the sky. Normally it is seen for one or two hours at dusk or dawn and low in the sky. When visible in the night sky, VENUS is seen as a phase - Crescent or Gibbous - rather than a complete sphere, and this can be checked with a low power telescope. Investigators should consult an astronomical guide for the exact position of VENUS at specific times of the year.

MARS: Known as the "Red Planet" - it appears slightly orange to the naked eye but certainly not an intense red as one might imagine. MARS is only visible at certain times and a full year may go by without it being seen easily. It will only be seen at its strongest magnitude of - 2.3 when it is in "opposition" to the Earth, i.e., at its closest distance of 35 million miles. This occurs normally every two years, and UFO reports at these times should be checked out. (Data Research have experienced reports of Mars being mistaken for a UFO). MARS will be seen in various parts of the sky and

astronomical tables should be checked.

JUPITER: JUPITER is the most "consistent" of the planets in that it is visible and high in the sky before midnight during most of the Winter months. It normally appears very white and not "twinkling". Through low power telescopes or binoculars some or all of the four large moons of JUPITER can just be seen, serving as a check on identification. JUPITER moves more slowly than Venus and is less likely to be misconstrued as a UFO.

During the winter of 1979-80 both Jupiter and Mars were in the same position in the sky and very bright. In fact, one February evening they rose in a horizontal plane together in the East, and viewed through a misty atmosphere, they appeared as two lights in formation and could easily be mistaken for UFOs.

ORION NEBULA: The NEBULA appears as a patch of hazy white light just below the central belt of three stars in the Orion constellation. Although this is not clearly outlined it could be seen as a more solid object by some viewers. Other galaxies such as Andromeda are supposed to be visible without optical assistance, but these do not show up at all well in the UK.

PLEIADES (Star Cluster): A fuzzy patch of light usually seen in winter months high in the sky in the constellation of Taurus. Looking through binoculars the area can be seen as a myriad of small stars with seven prominent ones (the seven sisters). Only those viewers with sharp eye-sight would be able to resolve the stars from a blur of light.

To summarise, the planets are relatively fast moving bodies and their position in the sky must be checked from tables if the Investigator is not familiar with their appearance. Planets as a rule, do not "twinkle" as their light is reflected, but stars emit their own light and therefore appear to "twinkle" due to atmospheric effects of the Earth. After sunset, the planets appear first in the sky, and in misty conditions, prevailing near the ground, frequently only planets are visible in the sky. Stars and constellations remain in fixed positions during a year cycle. All bodies appear to rise and set in one night due to the movement of the Earth, except those constellations high in the sky near the Pole star which are always on view and do not rise or set. Bodies rising just before dawn will not, of course, set before daylight, and those close to the Western horizon at sunset will disappear long before dawn. Most objects discussed are seen at their best only in the Winter months. The long days in June and July mean that

the objects pass over in daylight hours and are therefore invisible.

The movements of the high-lighted stars/planes during 1981 are set out below:- (Source "THE NIGHT SKY" guide published by the Times)

MERCURY: Will only be seen in May as an evening star up to 2 hours after sunset and in November as a morning star visible in the SE rising $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours before dawn.

VENUS: Will be a morning star in January and February but will then disappear until June, when it becomes an evening star becoming brighter and longer in the sky until December. In December it will be visible for over 3 hours from dusk and very bright in the SW.

MARS: Will be disappointing in 1981, being below its highest magnitude throughout. It will not be visible at all until August and then only in the early hours of the morning. By December it will just be visible by midnight.

JUPITER: Will be seen for part of the night each month except in September and October. The best month will be March when the planet will be magnitude -2 from mid-evening.

SIRIUS; ORION NEBULA, PLEIADES: Visible until midnight or later to April. Not seen well again until October onwards.

NAZI UFOs

by Data Research Team

(An investigation into the possibility that UFO's are advanced Nazi aircraft or secret weapons from reports and literature available at headquarters).

It has often been suggested that the Nazi's had flying machines very similar to Saucers, but no absolute proof has been forthcoming. There is quite a strong case that the Germans did in fact, research into the Saucer type of craft and these were far in advance of any conventional aircraft at the termination of World War II. There is detailed information of these facts in

"UFO'S NAZI SECRET WEAPON" by MATTERN FRIEDRICH. Another book in German was also published but the title is not known.

It is understood that the first were made as early as 1938 and by the middle of the war, several had been built and were capable of very high speeds. The system of propulsion must have been complex and beyond our comprehension, but it is known that they were smokeless and soundless.

Some accounts of the three top German research teams dealing with advanced flight state that, on the cessation of war, one team went to America, one to the USSR and the third dealing with the Saucer craft fled to South America. The last few weeks of the Third Reich have, of course, always been steeped in speculative reports concerning the whereabouts of the top Nazis, and it is a known fact that at least 45 percent of the top Nazis survived the war, most having escaped to South America.

Germany had a vast fleet of "U-Boat" submarines, and some of the later designs were capable of carrying heavy cargos. During the 1950's and even as late as 1969, several of these "U-Boats" were found by salvage crews in various parts of the world. Each was carrying vast amounts of mercury*, but their destination still remains a mystery although it was thought to be South America or Antarctica. (A further book is available on secret German expeditions and bases in Antarctica).

A few years ago, one of the UK Sunday newspapers produced an article on Nazis in South America, centred on Paraguay. They showed underground bunkers surrounded by barbed wire, and armed German guards in uniform. The reports failed to establish what was happening there due to massive security. It seems fairly certain that the Germans in South America are doing a vast amount of research.

*Mercury, chemical formula Hg, or "quick-silver", is unique in that it is metallic and liquid at room temperature. It is therefore used a great deal in remote control detonation of explosives and rocket launches, electrical circuits being completed by moving mercury mechanically between electrodes or using its expansion property (as seen in thermometers) to make or break circuits.

Could it be the further development of Flying Saucers? What evidence there is from the war years leads us to believe that there is a good chance of this being true.

A number of post-war UFO incidents have enhanced the Nazi origin theory subsequently - - -

- - - In Norway during 1964 a fisherman was fishing in a fiord, when he heard a noise coming from over the surrounding hills. To his amazement, a large circular craft came down and hovered over the water a few hundred yards away. The object beamed a bright green light at him which became darker and partially paralysed him although he could still see what was going on. The object had a ladder suspended from it, and it appeared that buckets or something similar were going up and down the ladder into the water. The object was hovering directly over the wreck of a sunken German Cargo Ship carrying mercury!

Here in England in 1965, at a site somewhere on the Yorkshire moors, a lorry driver parked in a lay-by and woke up at 6.30a.m., to hear a strange noise coming across the moors. To his astonishment he saw a large dome shaped object land, and out of it stepped 36 men dressed in olive green tunics and hoods. They wore black calf boots and each had a long torch projecting a beam of bright green light which changed to a darker beam.

The witness said they spoke in a guttural language, not unlike German, and there have indeed been several reports of landings around the world, where the occupants have been blond, fair skinned and spoken in a language not unlike German.

If the facts spoken about so far are correct, then there is a good chance that a certain number of UFOs seen around the UK since 1970 could be of Nazi origin. This is because witnesses have described identical objects seen on the ground or very close to the ground as that described on the Yorkshire moors. The craft seen have always been moving very slowly and make a similar noise when close to the ground. Those seen on the ground have always had drawbridge type doors and the same sort of windows. They have been roughly the same size, which is approximately 85 feet in diameter, and most of them have been seen in very isolated areas. One might speculate that they are either doing a survey or collecting samples, such as plant life or animals. It is, however, only a guessing game until some positive evidence turns up,

but these facts are known and cannot be dismissed:-

- (1) It is strongly suspected that Germany did have craft similar to the Flying Saucer during World War II.
- (2) They did have a research team working on such craft.
- (3) Germany did have special long range "U-Boats".
- (4) Sunken "U-Boats" with cargos of mercury have been found by salvage crews.
- (5) A UFO was seen extracting something out of the water over a submerged wreck of a German cargo ship carrying mercury.
- (6) There was a UFO landing in 1965, where 36 men emerged who spoke in a language not unlike German.
- (7) Blond occupants speaking a Germanic language have been seen in similar landings around the world.
- (8) Similar craft have been seen on quite a few occasions since 1970 around the UK, all about 85 feet in diameter.

These are the facts which cannot be ignored, and the Nazi origin theory may well be as plausible as the Extra Terrestrial Hypothesis, based on the information available. Evidence against such a theory is that - could mere mortals and their craft remain undetected for 35 years at the time of writing, and if their technology has now reached so advanced a state, would they not be looking for world conquest in line with previous Nazi ambitions? A further possibility is that the Nazis, part of the German "Master Race" have been chosen by superior Extraterrestrials to be their agents here on Earth and they have passed on advanced technology to these Germans.

SELECTED UFO REPORTS

by D. N. Mansell

21st July 1979. Time 9.30 p.m. Place - Simi Valley
California USA

A large white sphere moving very slowly. It had red, green and blue lights, which were flashing and rotating. The object was visible for half an hour.

23rd July 1979. Time 9.20 p.m. Place - Lordsburg USA

Three large discs - no other information

25th July 1979. Time 7.15 a.m. Place - Canoga Park
California USA

Several witnesses including a police officer saw a cylinder shaped object. It was hovering and emitted no sound. The estimated size was 12 feet long by 6 feet in diameter.

On the same day at 3.15 a.m., another object was seen which was a group of globular lights with some flashing. Dogs were heard barking and one of the witnesses, a young waitress, felt nauseated and exhibited blisters on her legs, after experiencing burning sensations. The girl also claimed an half-hour time lapse when all memories were obliterated.

1st August 1979. Time 4.05p.m. approx. Place - Green
County USA

An object with indistinct shape was seen by a helicopter pilot whilst in flight. The object was about 2 feet in diameter and had a depth of about 8 to 10 inches. It was only 50 feet away and gave out a loud "wooshing" noise.

1st August 1979. Time 1.35 a.m. Place - New York USA

A large white globe, moving quite rapidly, was seen by a police officer. The object reappeared at 1.47 a.m. going in a different direction. It caused the police radio system to jam.

1st August 1979. Time 11.50 p.m. Place - London SW17

The witness was returning home from the theatre when he noticed a very large cone shaped object, stationary and low in the sky. It was several times larger than a full moon. The object had two dark zig-zag lines running through the centre of the cone. It proceeded to move silently down the road gradually gaining height and the witness pursued it in his car. It soon gained height and within a few seconds disappeared.

5th August 1979. Time 1.42 a.m. Place - Cannock Staffs.

The witness, a miner, was in his back garden looking at the stars, when he noticed a large moving star. As it approached, he noticed it was a bright sphere, with several other coloured lights of red, blue, yellow and orange. The

object was travelling quite fast and made a low buzzing sound. It also gave out a trail of smoke which was very long and wide. Finally, the object disappeared into a cloud whereupon the buzzing stopped.

11th August 1979. Time 6.15p.m. Place - Westchester
County USA

The witnesses, a police officer and his wife, saw a strange craft. The front of the craft was like the handle of a spoon with the main body a bubble-like shape. The forward portion had a set of small wings and from the wings came what appeared to be a large antenna system. The colour was charcoal grey.

11th August 1979. Time 10.25 p.m. Place - Banbury Oxon.

Three witnesses had just returned home and were unlocking doors when one noticed two bright lights. The objects were moving across the sky, when they suddenly stopped for about 3 seconds. They then started moving towards the witnesses, appearing to merge into one object. The shape could not be seen, but 6 lights were evident.- 4 large white lights, a red light in the centre and a small blue light on the outside. The object passed overhead emitting a bright white beam. There was a loud whistling noise and the object was the size of a football.

13th August 1979. Time 3.20 p.m. Place - Aldridge
West Midlands

Several witnesses, all young women, were working at their office, when one looked out and saw an unusual object. The object was moving quickly from South to North and was tilting slightly as it moved. It was about 10-12 inches in size and looked like a disc, possibly black or grey underneath and silver grey on top. Its speed was rapid and no sound was heard nor was there any smoke-trail. It then tilted upwards at about 45 degrees, gathered speed and disappeared.

"PUBLIC IMPRESSIONS"

by Graham and Mark Birdsall*

When "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" was shown at the Odeon cinema in Leeds, it broke all previous box-office records. It ran for a record 32 weeks, and

*Co-ordinator and Investigator, Leeds, Yorks. -----

was seen by over $\frac{1}{4}$ million people. It seemed only natural therefore, that the sequel, "Special Edition of Close Encounters of the Third Kind", would be seen by a large audience.

When my brother Mark and I learned that the film was due to be shown in Leeds in late October last year, we decided to approach the management of the Odeon cinema and seek their permission to hold a display during the period it would run. We had four weeks in which to mount an intelligent and thought-provoking display, one that had to look good and be seen to represent a professional organisation, not a display from cranks.

The Odeon management agreed to our request, and we quickly set to work.

Derek Mansell kindly sent us some very good descriptive case histories with diagrams and photo's, and these were quickly copied and set onto hard-backed cards. With the help of a Leeds Art Studio, our own artwork was type-set, and underwent a similar process. Newspaper clippings and colour photos were neatly set out and mounted on coloured card, along with face covers of our magazine "Awareness".

With just two days to spare, after a lot of hard work, we had obtained three hessian backed boards, four feet square, on which to place the artwork. A display company provided us with the framework, and finally we were ready to mount the display. It looked good, and judging by the crowds of people milling around it, in the foyer of the cinema, it would be a success.

We had printed 1,500 free information leaflets which could be taken and read by those interested in our organisation. After a five week run, we had seen 1,300 of those leaflets disappear, and received 59 genuine replies from persons wishing to join Contact (UK). We were well satisfied that a good public relations exercise had been carried out, but to receive all those replies was the icing on the cake. Even a Bufora representative who saw the display rang us to congratulate us on an "excellent display".

Members of the public were impressed, they had got the message - Contact (UK) is alive and well, and here in the North.

Now of course, not everybody can afford to mount such a display, but smaller, more compact exercises can be done, and the results could be exciting. We have to bring the name "Contact (UK)" onto everybodys' lips whenever the word

UFO is mentioned, in order not to be outdone by other organisations. It is up to us to work really hard at the tasks in hand, to bring fresh ideas to the fore, then act on them, not just sit back and let someone else do the work. These are eventful times for Contact (UK), so let us all strive to reach the ultimate objective, making our organisation not just the best in Britain but the best in the world.

Editor

All at headquarters are indebted to Graham and Mark for this really first-class effort at Leeds. Several of the 59 enquirers have indeed become members and this campaign has been the most successful by far during 1980.

The revised film of "Close Encounters" has now been circuited throughout the country and we have reviewed it as objectively as possible in this edition of "Awareness".

BOOK REVIEW

"PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN"

Robert Rickard and Richard Kelly
New English Library (Grante Editions Ltd.)
144 pages (£7.95)

It is probable that all readers will be familiar with the writings of Charles Fort and that the vast majority will either have read or heard of the "Fortean Times", a widely respected journal edited by Robert Rickard. In collaboration with another "Fortean" researcher, Richard Kelly, Rickard now presents a truly remarkable, indeed a unique, collection of photographs of paranormal subjects in what will undoubtedly become a classic of its type - "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN".

Over 300 astonishing photographs, almost half of them in full-colour, and many never previously published, make "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN" an indispensable source of primary photographic evidence of paranormal phenomena. Of large format, and using glossy paper throughout, this fascinating book thus permits individual photographs to be printed at large size and in great clarity. The result is as visually impressive as it is compulsively absorbing. One could go as far as to predict that even readers who have never heard of Charles Fort or previously taken much interest in paranormal events would find it difficult to lay aside this volume.

Members of Contact International (UK) will probably most immediately focus on the sections on UFOs, ball-lightning, and unusual atmospheric phenomena. The photographs comprising these sections embrace both familiar, very rare, and completely new pictures, and include several full-colour frames of UFOs produced via photographic-enhancement and computer-analysis techniques. The results are revelatory. The UFOs pictured include "Foo-fighters", cigar-like, cylindrical, hat-shaped, pyramidal, and the more commonly seen discoidal forms. Unfortunately two of the photographs offered - one of an object near Lake Vattern and one of an object over Venezuelan jungles - are known to have been hoaxes. Hopefully these will be expunged from any future edition of "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN".

Elsewhere we find superb photographs of 'Nessie' - including the celebrated under-water shot obtained in 1975 by Dr. Rines - and of similar aquatic monsters in Canadian and Japanese lakes, and in Falmouth Bay, Cornwall. Carcasses of allegedly unknown marine creatures of awesome size are also figured; as are 'Yeti' and 'Bigfoot': footprints and the famous colour photograph of Sasquatch taken in 1967 by Roger Patterson.

Other photographs to delight Fortean and everyone else with an enquiring turn of mind deal with the self-moving rocks of Death Valley, California, skyfalls involving gigantic hailstones, ice, redhot chains, artificial objects of unknown origin, and 'Angel Hair'. Psychic phenomena of many varieties, including possession, stigmata, bleeding statues and pictures, ectoplasm, mediumship, thought photography, Kirlian photography, angels, paranormal persons, divine portraits, alleged aliens, phantoms, materialisations, mind-over-matter effects, pain immunity, psychic surgery, firewalking, levitation and alleged poltergeist activity - more than enough to keep any reader absorbed for hours - are also covered.

Accompanied by cryptic but factually accurate texts (except for the two hoax photographs previously mentioned) "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN" contains certain illustrations that will repel the squeamish and upset those of nervous disposition. It is recommended that purchasers of this book should withhold it from the very young and those who would be knowingly disturbed by its contents. That many of these contents are disturbing cannot be denied. Equally, many pictures are educational. As we all know, educational processes can sometimes be disturbing or upsetting.

Upon reviewing the implications of the evidence presented by Rickard and Kelly it is manifestly apparent that we dwell in a world hosting many events of strangely inter-related type which, as yet, scientific methods cannot satisfactorily explain. Hitherto, much of this evidence has been confined to specialist journals or has been known to a handful of dedicated researchers.

One of the great merits of "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN" is unquestionably its assembly between just two covers of so much of this evidential material. For that Rickard and Kelly will for long be thanked.

Considering the range of its contents and its highly commendable style of presentation, "PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE UNKNOWN" is tremendous value at £7.95p. Buy your copy without delay.

J. B. Delair

FILM REVIEW

Special Edition of "CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND"
Columbia Pictures. Directed by Steven Spielberg.
Starring Richard Dreyfuss.

Masterpiece or rubbish - these extremes of opinion will no doubt be applied to Mr. Spielberg's UFO film! This new special edition coming two years after the original version seeks to eliminate some of the more irrelevant parts and add extra detail, particularly at the grand conclusion when we see inside the gigantic mother-ship and obtain longer glimpses of "Treen"-like alien entities.

The film is very modern, American and Brash in style. Contrasted with earlier science fiction films with a UFO interest such as the "Quatermass" series or "War of the Worlds", "CE III" is an entirely different conception. In the earlier films the viewer tended to feel part of the drama and could sense what was coming next but in CE III one has to look in from the outside and try to follow what appears to be a somewhat disjointed series of fast changing location shots. To the laymen it may not be apparent for some time what the film is about, as the word "UFO" is mentioned just in one sequence in over two hours duration. Elsewhere the script appears to be embarrassed by the words "UFO" or "Flying Saucer", referring to events as "I had a strange experience last night" or similar vague statements. After a while one gets accustomed to the innuendos and, on reflection, these give the film its feeling of drama and tension on the first viewing, but seem less effective on seeing a repeat.

The story, in a nutshell, is that an alien race of high technological standing has been abducting people and objects from the Earth for several years without informing the authorities, and now wishes to barter those abducted for a fresh batch! This time however, the aliens have a more gentlemanly approach and inform the authorities by devious means that they will rendezvous at a secret location in the USA to effect an exchange of abducted personnel from their spacecraft. In the first instance, the aliens show their good faith by returning some of the hardware they removed from the "Bermuda Triangle" as long ago as 1945. Unfortunately,

they ditch a fleet of aircraft in the most inhospitable part of Mexico and a giant tanker vessel in the sands of the Gobi desert. (Is this Mr. Spielberg's joke about "The Ship of the Desert"?). A group of human volunteers (or possibly conscripts) are lined up for the exchange, but a number of other persons such as telephone engineer Neary, (Mr. Dreyfuss) are beamed up by the UFOs in earlier sequences and compelled, like lemmings, to find the rendez-vous which the military go to enormous lengths to keep secret. None the less, all unravels itself in due course, and despite gimmicks galore, the Close Encounter is made.

UFO researchers may question the accuracy of some of the ufological incidences during the film. Engine failures, power black-outs and red facial burn marks are seen, which are well known recorded features of UFO activity, but the shaking up of people sitting in cars and victims being abducted by light beams are more likely to be part of the gimmicks which abound.

A great deal has been said about Government and military involvement in the film. Could it be a portent of the future, or is it just pure fiction? Whatever one believes, there can be no denying that the film is a unique experience, and should be seen by anyone with the slightest interest in UFOs.

G. E. Ambler

ADVERTISEMENTS

LOST KNOWLEDGE

EVER-BURNING LAMPS which remained alight in tombs for hundreds of years without refueling was the subject of a lecture by William Wynn Westcott in 1885. Reproductions of this forgotten text are now available for 40p (inc. p & p).

GOD'S WEAPON (a monograph by David Medina) explores the history of the electronic and radionic weapon built by Moses c1500 BC and called the Ark of the Covenant. Price £1.10 (inc. p & p).

The above publications are obtainable from: David Medina
6 Grant Court
18 Spencer Hill
London SW19 4NY

LANTERN a quarterly journal of East Anglian oddities, edited by Ivan Bunn, no. 3 Dunwich Way Lowestoft Suffolk.

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UFO DIRECTORY

Names, addresses of UFO Organisations, groups and publications worldwide. Send £2.00 with order to UFO Network, 2 St. Ivian Crt., Colneyhatch Lane, London N10.

UFOs and Space Age Publications

The following books are available from stock at time of printing:

UFOs THE STARTLING FACTS by Tim Furness. Illustrated magazine format 65p.

SPACEQUEST Illust. Issues 2 and 3 90p. inclusive.

THE JANOS PEOPLE Close encounter of the 4th Kind by Frank Johnson £5.50

FLYING SAUCERS FROM THE EARTH'S INTERIOR by Dr. Raymond Bernard £4.

THE TUJUNGA CANYON CONTACTS by Ann Druffel & D.Scott Rogo £7.60

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Mounting evidence indicates malevolent purposes underlying at least some UFO activity. Many are unaware of this and are unprepared for it when it occurs. If you require further information or have already experienced unpleasant UFO events, do please contact the Rev. E. Inglesby at Spring Cottage, West End Gardens, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4JB. Remember CHRUFORA exists to help.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

2nd LONDON INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Bufora have informed us that the following speakers have accepted invitations to lecture at the Congress on Sunday 24th May and Monday 25th May, 1981.

- BERTIL KUHLEMANN (Sweden) - "The Link Between the Investigator
and the Scientist"
- CHARLES BOWEN (Editor "Flying Saucer Review") - "Reflections of
an Editor"
- NIGEL HENBEST FRAS - "The Possible Influence of Black Holes on
Space Travel"
- DR. BRUCE MACCABEE PH.D (USA) - "Changing Views on the Extra-
Terrestrial Hypothesis"
- DAVID HASELL (Canada) - "The Need for Collaboration - The
Canadian Experience"

The Congress fee is £15.00 for the two days. (See your Autumn 1980 "Awareness" for further details.)

PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION

The first competition has been won by Mr. M. J. Craig of Berlin, West Germany. His effort entitled "How I Would React to a Personal Confrontation with a UFO Occupant" was chosen from a small but select entry. It will be published in the Spring 1981 edition of "Awareness". An award of £15.00 is being made to Mr. Craig.

The subject choice for the 1981 essay competition will be announced shortly and it is hoped that a greater number of members will participate in this year's entry.

CAR STICKERS

An attractive car sticker has been commissioned for Contact (UK) in black on yellow background. A facsimile of the sticker is shown on the leaflet accompanying this magazine and members are urged to purchase as many of them as possible to bring welcome publicity to the organisation and to defray the heavy costs in producing the stickers professionally. The price is 45p. each plus stamp addressed envelope.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held at St. Neots, Cambridge on January 24th. A full report of the proceedings will be published in the next edition of "Awareness".

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CONTACT INTERNATIONAL (UNITED KINGDOM)

NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF
CONTACT INTERNATIONAL

London 1981

Dear Members,

It has been many moons (if I may use - for us - the evocative phrase) since last I wrote a Newsletter to you, and this has been for a number of reasons. The most important being the one-sided character of my communications with many of the C.I. branches. After my last mammoth Newsletter effort to some 35 countries, I had only a pathetic response from a few branches, and postal paper and duplicating charges being what they are, I am very reluctant about continuing such an unrequited relationship!

To ease matters, my future Newsletters will be included in the body of AWARENESS. However, this does not mean that it obviates the necessity of a reply. One of the main purposes of my letter is to give a resume of the activities of member countries. If these same member countries do not keep me informed of what is happening they make my task an impossible one. Also, they do themselves an injustice as they lose out on the news value, publicity and exchange of ideas which are very valuable.

Apart from anything else, I am extremely interested in your welfare, and deeply concerned about all aspects of the work you are doing in the field of Ufology. It is vital that we are aware of each other's projects in this sphere, and bad communications damages the whole organisation. So, please, do appoint one of your members to be the spokesman for your branch when writing to me. Ideally, it should be the International Chairman, of course.

Just to say a last word on this point, the one branch that has maintained close contact with me, putting me in the picture about all that has been happening in their country, is the C.I. branch in Durban, South Africa. Ten out of ten to them for loyalty, businesslike method and, may I add, courtesy.

Now, having made my point brutally clear, let me turn to the current situation generally. As many of you must have noticed, there appears to have been a lull in UFO activities recently. I use the word "apparently" because I doubt whether there has, in fact, been a lull at all. It is more likely that the international media are fed-up with publishing basic UFO sighting reports, and want something more spectacular. Also, the world-wide cover-up is, I believe, taking effect more deeply than ever. I don't think one is being paranoid about this. For instance, in November there were spectacular sightings in the airspace above Barcelona airport. Five planes, including passenger aircraft and a British jet, had to take speedy evasive action to avoid a UFO which "burst" into five separate UFOs. It was

comprehensively reported in Spain's most prestigious daily paper "La Vanguardia", all the pilots made statements about the event. Air-traffic control were alarmed at the manoeuvres of the five planes because the UFOs did not show up on radar, only the sudden evasive actions of the planes. Eventually, over the ground-to-air radio system, the pilots explained why they had just taken such action.

A few days later, the newspaper published another long article featuring denials from all the people involved, including the pilots. It was really quite amusing, so phoney was the whole cover-up. No, they hadn't seen UFOs, no they hadn't taken any evasive action. The "authorities" explained that what had been seen was (wait for it !) a tanker plane re-fuelling another plane. One would think they could have found a more original excuse than this, at least. However, there was no explanation about the actions of one of the UFOs which, after the swift descent of one of the civil aircraft, seemed to mimic this craft by suddenly swooping low over the runway almost to ground level. However, at the end of this article, there was a paragraph printed in heavier type, saying that aircraft experts believed the denial was absurd, and that under no circumstances could the objects witnessed by the five planes have been anything but UFOs. The small, still voice of logic amidst all the irrational noise of official alarm.

That, I am afraid, is all we can expect at present. Which brings me to my resolution for 1981, and it affects all of us. My major aim is to do whatever I can - and you can! - to break the cover-up. Enormous application is needed for this, and it will be impossible without your help. I realise that in some countries it will be more difficult than in others, but let's start and face the difficulties as they arise, Let me know, please, what the official situation is in your country.

Here, in the UK, there is a great feeling of indignation about the way the Government continues to treat such a serious subject as though it barely existed. Of course, they are scared. But by pushing the problem to the bottom of their files, they are not going to make the situation any the more tolerable. UFOs exist and it would be wiser for Government to be open about this now, while there is still time to get the public gradually used to the idea rather than wait for some spectacular and perhaps, worrying, manifestation of the phenomenon. I should appreciate your views and ideas on the matter.

I am very interested in all branches having a good group of trained investigators to follow up UFO sightings in your specific areas. The UK branch have probably the best-trained investigators in the world, and if you let me know, I shall arrange for information to be sent to you on the most effective way of training investigators.

Above all, I beg you to keep an open mind on the entire subject. There is nothing so valueless and irritating than dogmatic pronouncements by so-called UFO experts who declare that UFOs are all "peaceful/aggressive/good/wicked/four feet high and grey/six foot high and blonde/from psychic planes/Venus/Mars" or any one of the hundreds of variations to which we have become so accustomed and bored.

Let us, by all means, gather, sift and classify all information we acquire, but let us be circumspect about accepting willy nilly anything as whole truth, at this stage. We simply do not know with what, or with whom, we are dealing. The most we can assume, is that whatever or whoever they may be, they are in some respects more intelligent than we are. I know that one of the main misgivings I have personally about statements from contactees is that if UFO occupants really wanted to have any influence on the affairs of Earth, or stop us from blowing ourselves up, polluting the atmosphere, etc., etc., they would go straight to the top and speak to the decision-makers of the world, rather than making pompous little speeches to Juan in Puerto Rico or Mrs. Brown in Budleigh Salterton. Not that I have anything against Juan or Mrs. Brown, but they are hardly in a position to change the policies of world governments. Perhaps in spite of their intelligence, UFO people lack basic marketing skills!

You may well disagree with me on this point. I'd like to know your opinion, so do let me hear from you.

Lord Clancarty, our founder-president, continues to do marvellous work with his UFO Committee in the House of Lords. Many eminent men are on this committee and they all support Lord Clancarty's efforts to expose the official cover-up. C.I. will have closer co-operation with this committee in the future, exchanging information and ideas.

In my next Newsletter I shall give you a summary of all the meetings held by the House of Lords committee to date. Our own dear Bernard Delair will be addressing them on the 10th February.

I have recently strengthened my Advisory Council and have appointed five members of Contact International UK onto the Council. As they are also members of our splendid Data Research team in Oxford, this means we now have a really professional and highly expert Council which has already resulted in a general streamlining of our functions. The new Members are Sandy Robb, (Membership Secretary of C.I. UK) Sue Rees (no relation but, no doubt, part of the strange multi-Rees syndrome in the Ufology name stakes!), Geoff Ambler (Editor of this excellently produced magazine), John Sears, National Chairman, and Derek Mansell our Senior Research Officer whose valuable behind-the-scenes efforts have been such an enormous help to

me for years.

The modification of the Council was precipitated by the sudden and distressing deaths of Dr. John Cleary-Baker and Captain Ivar Mackay. Dr. Cleary-Baker was known and respected throughout the UFO scene, and though in latter years illness prevented his attending our meetings, we were always aware of his contributions to the study of the UFO phenomenon, throughout the years. Captain Mackay was an active member of Council and one with a deep knowledge of our subject. His death comes as a personal shock to us, and we shall miss him very much. But perhaps both he and John Cleary-Baker now know the answers to so many questions that for us, still remain unanswered. Please remember them in your prayers.

Finally, the down-to-earth matter that is a source of constant concern: money. Subscriptions were due in January. Branch annual subscriptions remain at £10.00 and individual subs at £5.00. Please let me have your cheques made out to "Contact International". We depend upon these subscriptions for our printing, paper and postage costs. British postal rates suffered another increase in January. So your prompt payment will help us to ensure that you receive the C.I. publications promptly in return. I regret that free interchange of magazines can no longer be sustained.

A second "finally" we have just received news that Contact International (Durban) have accepted the invitation of the Advisory Council to appoint a new International Vice-President for the next two years. The International Vice-President is, therefore, Mr. Walter Pople, who is their Chairman. I shall let you have more news about this in my next Newsletter. Meanwhile, if you wish to contact this hardworking and successful branch, their address is:

Contact International (Durban)
PO Box 743, 4000 Durban, Natal, South Africa.

With my warmest regards to all of you - looking forward to regular correspondence between us in 1981.

Ruth Rees
President
Contact International



THIS YEAR, 1981, IS RECRUITMENT YEAR FOR CONTACT INTERNATIONAL.

WE WOULD LIKE AS MANY MEMBERS AS POSSIBLE TO PURCHASE OUR NEW CAR STICKERS AS ILLUSTRATED ABOVE. THEY ARE PRODUCED IN VINYL, PRINTED BLACK ON YELLOW BACKGROUND, AND ARE FOR SALE AT 45 PENCE EACH PLUS S.A.E (SIZE AS ABOVE) FROM 48, CROWN ROAD, WHEATLEY, OXFORD.

MEMBERS AND INVESTIGATORS IN PARTICULAR WITH THEIR WIDER LINKS WITH THE PUBLIC ARE EARNESTLY INVITED TO ENDEAVOUR TO RECRUIT 3 NEW MEMBERS OR MORE THIS YEAR FOR CONTACT INTERNATIONAL UK. WE CANNOT OFFER AWARDS FOR THIS, BUT CAN GUARANTEE THE EXTRA MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS WILL GO TO IMPROVE THE ORGANISATION.

PLEASE EVERYONE, DO YOUR UTMOST TO HELP US. IT REALLY WILL BE A WORTHWHILE EFFORT.